

1. (Original) A shed CD (sCD) fingerprint of one or more disease states.
2. (Original) A method of generating a shed CD (sCD) fingerprint of one or more disease state/s comprising the step of measuring the levels in parallel of more than one shed CDs from one or more individuals and collating the data.
3. (Currently Amended) A sCD fingerprint according to claim 1 ~~or a method according to claim 2~~ wherein the disease state is any one or more selected ~~from~~ from the group consisting of: infectious, neoplastic, autoimmune, metabolic, immunological, degenerative, physchological, psychiatric, iatrogenic, inflammatory, drug or toxin related, vascular traumatic and endocrine diseases.
4. (Currently Amended) A ~~sCD-fingerprint or a method according any preceding claim to claim 1~~ wherein the disease state is any one or more selected from the group consisting of the following: infection, Bence Jones Proteinuria, Chronic Myeloid Leukemia, Colorectal cancer, chronic renal failure, Crohn's Disease, Diabetic Nephropathy, Cardiac pathology, Infection, Liver damage, Lymphoma, macrocytic anaemia, Prostate Cancer, Oligoclonal Banding and Pulmonary Embolism/Deep Vein Thrombosis and appendicitis.
5. (Currently Amended) A sCD fingerprint according to claim 1 ~~or claim 3 or claim 4 or a method according to claim 2, claim 3 or claim 4~~ wherein the sCDs referred to comprise two or more selected from the group consisting: CD14, CD25, CD31, CD44, CD50, CD54, CD62E, CD62L, CD86, CD95, CD106, CD116, CD124, CD138, CD141, CD40L, CD8, CD23, CD30, CD40 and their homologues present in other mammalian or non-mammalian species.
6. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 2 to 5~~ claim 2 wherein the sCD levels are measured in samples of one or more body fluids from an individual.
7. (Original) A method according to claim 6 wherein the body fluid is serum.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 2 to 7 claim~~  
2 wherein sCD levels are measured using one or more methods selected from the group consisting of: immunoassay and flow cytometry.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8 wherein sCD levels are measured using any one or more method selected from the group consisting of the following: multiplexed particle flow cytometry, chip based monoclonal antibody technology, chips comprising engineered antibodies, non protein agents which bind to one or more sCDs.

10. (Original) A method for predicting the presence of one or more disease states in an individual comprising the step of comparing one or more sCD fingerprint/s generated from that individual with one or more reference sCD fingerprint/s.

11. (Original) A method for detecting the presence of one or more disease states in an individual comprising the step of comparing one or more sCD fingerprint/s generated from that individual with one or more reference sCD fingerprint/s.

12. (Original) A method for detecting the extent of one or more disease states in an individual comprising the step of comparing one or more sCD fingerprint/s generated from that individual with one or more reference sCD fingerprint/s.

13. (Original) A method for assessing the progression of a disease state in an individual comprising the step of comparing the sCD fingerprint of an individual at two or more periods during the life-span of the disease.

14. (Original) A method for assessing the effect of one or more agent/s on one or more disease states in an individual comprising the step of comparing a sCD fingerprint of an individual at two or more different time periods.

15. (Original) The use of a sCD fingerprint to assess the effect of one or more agent/s on an individual.

16. (Original) A method for sub-categorising a sCD fingerprint profile comprising the steps of identifying within one disease category one or more group/s of sCDs wherein each group of sCDs exhibits common characteristics distinguishing it from any other group within that disease category.

17. (Original) A sCD database comprising pathological and/or normal sCD fingerprint patterns.

18. (Original) A method for treating one or more diseases comprising the step of inhibiting the production of one or more sCDs within an individual.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18 wherein the one or more sCDs are any one or more of those selected from the group consisting of the following: CD14, CD25, CD31, CD44, CD50, CD54, CD62E, CD62L, CD86, CD95, CD106, CD116, CD124, CD138, CD141, CD40L, CD8, CD23, CD30, CD40.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19 wherein at least one sCD is sCD1.

21. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 18 ~~or claim 19~~ wherein the production of one or more sCDs is inhibited by the use of one or more CD specific alternative splicing inhibitors.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 18 to 21~~ claim 18 wherein the disease is any one or more of those selected from the group consisting of the following: tumourigenesis, infection, vascular disease, endocrine disease.

23. (Original) The use of an inhibitor of the production of one or more sCDs in the preparation of a medicament for the treatment of disease.

24. (Currently Amended) The use according to claim 23, wherein that use exhibits any one or more of the features of ~~claims 18 to 22~~ claim 18.